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DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371**

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U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 C.F.R. 1.5)

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09/890155

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.
PCT/JP00/00340

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE
25 January 2000

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED
27 January 1999

TITLE OF INVENTION

LAMINATED PACKAGING MATERIAL FOR PAPER CONTAINER

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

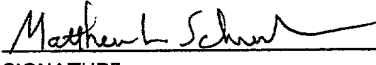
Peter FRISK, Norio KOBAYASHI, and Hiroaki OGITA

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and the PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).
4. ☒ A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
 - a. ☐ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☒ has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US)
6. ☒ A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
7. ☐ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))
 - a. ☐ are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. ☐ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☐ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).
10. ☐ A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).

Items 11. to 16. below concern other document(s) or information included:

11. ☐ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
12. ☐ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13. ☒ A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
☐ A **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** preliminary amendment.
14. ☐ A substitute specification.
15. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
16. ☐ Other items or information:

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, use 37 CFR 1.56) Unassigned 09/890155		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP00/00340		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 027650-937	
17. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted:				CALCULATIONS	PTO USE ONLY
Basic National Fee (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)): Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO \$1,000.00 (960) International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO \$860.00 (970) International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO \$710.00 (958) International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$690.00 (956) International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$100.00 (962) <div style="text-align: right;">ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =</div>					
<div style="text-align: right;">\$ 860.00</div>					
Surcharge of \$130.00 (154) for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 <input type="checkbox"/> months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).				\$ 0.00	
Claims	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate		
Total Claims	6 -20 =	0	X\$18.00 (966)	\$ 0.00	
Independent Claims	3 -3 =	0	X\$80.00 (964)	\$ 0.00	
Multiple dependent claim(s) (if applicable)			+ \$270.00 (968)	\$ 0.00	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$ 860.00	
Reduction for 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable (see below).				\$ 0.00 -	
SUBTOTAL =				\$ 860.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 (156) for furnishing the English translation later than 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 <input type="checkbox"/> months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).				\$ 0.00	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$ 860.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 (581) per property +				\$ 0.00	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$ 860.00	
				Amount to be:	
				refunded	\$
				charged	\$
a. <input type="checkbox"/> Small entity status is hereby claimed. b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ <u>860.00</u> to cover the above fees is enclosed. c. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>02-4800</u> in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>02-4800</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: Matthew L. Schneider, Esquire BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P. P.O. Box 1404 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404 (703) 836-6620					
			 SIGNATURE		
			<u>Matthew L. Schneider</u> NAME		
			<u>32,814</u> REGISTRATION NUMBER		

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Patent

Attorney's Docket No. 027650-937

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Peter FRISK et al.) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Application No.: Corresponds to International) Examiner: Unassigned
Application No. PCT/JP00/00340)
International Application Filed: January 25, 2000)
For: LAMINATED PACKAGING MATERIAL)
FOR PAPER CONTAINER)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, kindly amend the above-identified application in the following manner.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly replace Claims 1-6 as follows.

1. (Amended) A packaging material for paper containers comprising at least a thermoplastic material outermost layer, a paper substrate layer, a barrier layer, and a thermoplastic material innermost layer laminated in such order,

the thermoplastic material innermost layer containing at least a linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution and has an average density of 0.900-0.915, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 5-20, a swelling ratio of 1.4-1.6, and a layer thickness of 20-50-micrometer.

2. (Amended) A packaging material for paper containers according to Claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic material outermost layer contains at least a linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution, and has an average density of 0.900-0.925, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 5-20, a swelling ratio of 1.4-1.6, and a layer thickness of 10-15 micrometer.

3. (Amended) A packaging material for paper containers according to Claim 1, including an adhesives layer between the barrier layer and the thermoplastic material innermost layer that contains at least a linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution, and has an average density of 0.900-0.915, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 5-20, a swelling ratio of 1.4-1.6, and a layer thickness of 2-15 micrometer.

4. (Amended) A packaging material for paper containers according to Claim 1, including an adhesive thermoplastic material layer between the paper substrate layer and the barrier layer which contains at least a linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution, and has an average density of 0.890-0.925, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 10-20, a swelling ratio of 1.4-1.6, and a layer thickness of 10-25 micrometer.

5. (Amended) A paper packaging container formed from a packaging material comprising at least a thermoplastic material outermost layer, a paper substrate layer, a barrier layer, and a thermoplastic material innermost layer laminated in such order, the thermoplastic material innermost layer containing at least a linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution and has an average density of 0.900-0.915, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 5-20, a swelling ration of 1.4-1.6, and a layer thickness of 20-50 micrometer.

a strip tape covering a discontinuous section of the thermoplastic material innermost layer between two edges of the packaging material in liquid tight, and

at least a sealing-surface layer of the strip tape containing a linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution and has an average density of 0.900-0.915, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 5-20, a swelling ratio of 1.4-1.6, and a layer thickness of 20-100 micrometer.

6. (Amended) A paper packaging container formed from a packaging material comprising at least an outside thermoplastic material layer, a paper substrate layer, and an inside thermoplastic material layer, the inside thermoplastic material layer containing at least a linear low density polyethylene, and having an average density of 0.910-0.930, a peak melting point of 115 degrees C or more by the differential scanning calorimetry, a melt flow index of 5-15, and a swelling ratio of 1.3-1.8.

REMARKS

By way of the foregoing claim amendments, minor changes have been incorporated into the claims to avoid the European style of claim language involving the use of "characterized in that" language and place the claims in a form more closely corresponding to U.S. practice.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 27, 2001

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated July 27, 2001

Marked-up Claims 1-6

1. (Amended) A packaging material for paper containers comprising at least [constitution layers of] a thermoplastic material outermost layer, a paper substrate layer, a barrier layer, and a thermoplastic material innermost layer [and consisting the constitution layers] laminated in [above] such order, [characterized in that]

the thermoplastic material innermost layer [contains] containing at least a linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution and has [the properties parameter of] an average density of 0.900-0.915, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 5-20, a swelling ratio [(SR)] of 1.4-1.6, and a layer thickness of 20-50-micrometer. [of a layer thickness.]

2. (Amended) A packaging material for paper containers according to Claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic material outermost layer contains at least a linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution, and has [properties parameter of] an average density of 0.900-0.925, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 5-20, a swelling ratio [(SR)] of 1.4-1.6, and a layer thickness of 10-15 micrometer. [of a layer thickness.]

3. (Amended) A packaging material for paper containers according to Claim 1, [wherein the] including an adhesives layer between the barrier layer and the thermoplastic

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated July 27, 2001

Marked-up Claims 1-6

material innermost layer that contains at least a linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution, and has [properties parameters of] an average density of 0.900-0.915, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 5-20, a swelling ratio [(SR)] of 1.4-1.6, and a layer thickness of 2-15 micrometer [of a layer thickness.]

4. (Amended) A packaging material for paper containers according to Claim 1, [wherein the] including an adhesive thermoplastic material layer between the paper substrate layer and the barrier layer which contains at least a linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution, and has [the properties parameter of] an average density of 0.890-0.925, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 10-20, a swelling ratio [(SR)] of 1.4-1.6, and a layer thickness of 10-25 micrometer [of a layer thickness.]

5. (Amended) A paper packaging container formed from a packaging material comprising [constitution layers of] at least a thermoplastic material outermost layer, a paper substrate layer, a barrier layer, and a thermoplastic material innermost layer [and consisting the constitution layers] laminated in [above] such order, [characterized in that] the thermoplastic material innermost layer [contains] containing at least a linear low density

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated July 27, 2001

Marked-up Claims 1-6

polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution and has [properties parameters of] an average density of 0.900-0.915, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 5-20, a swelling ration [(SR)] of 1.4-1.6, and a layer thickness of 20-50 micrometer, [of a layer thickness,]

a strip tape [covers] covering a discontinuous section of the thermoplastic material innermost layer between two edges of the packaging material in liquid tight, and

at least a sealing-surface layer of the strip [tap contains] tape containing a linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution and has [properties parameters of] an average density of 0.900-0.915, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 5-20, a swelling ratio [(SR)] of 1.4-1.6, and a layer thickness of 20-100 micrometer, [of a layer thickness.]

6. (Amended) A paper packaging container formed from a packaging material comprising [constitution layers of] at least an outside thermoplastic material layer, a paper substrate layer, and an inside thermoplastic material layer, [characterized in that] the inside thermoplastic material layer [contains] containing at least a linear low density polyethylene, and [has] having [properties parameters of] an average density of 0.910-0.930, a peak melting point of 115 degrees C or more by the differential scanning calorimetry, a melt flow index of 5-15, and a swelling ratio of 1.3-1.8.

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DESCRIPTION

Laminated packaging material for paper container

Technical Field

This invention relates to a packaging material for paper containers suitable for filling packaging of liquid foods.

In detail, this invention relates to the packaging material for the paper packaging container of brick shape and the paper packaging container of a gable top shape suitable for filling packaging of liquid foods. About the paper packaging container of brick shape, the continuous packaging material is longitudinal-sealed in the longitudinal direction of the packaging material, and the paper packaging material is formed to a tube shape. Products, such as fruit juice, tea, and liquid dairy products, are packed in tube-like packaging material. A transversal seal is formed in the transversal direction of tube-like packaging material for every predetermined interval, and the packaging material is cut along the transversal-seal zone. About the paper packaging container of a gable top shape, paper packaging material is cut in the predetermined shape, and the blanks sealed to container lengthwise is obtained, and after sealing the bottom of the blank, a liquid food product is packed from the top opening, and the upper part is sealed and the packaging container is obtained.

Background Art

The packaging container for milk, juice, or other drinks is obtained as follows: For example, paper / plastics laminated packaging material with crease lines are formed to a tube shape by the longitudinal seal of a longitudinal direction. The product is packed in the packaging material formed by the tube shape, the tube-like packaging material is transversally sealed in the transversal direction of the packaging material, and packaging material is formed in the primary shape of a cushion form, or pillow shape, and the packaging material is separately cut at fixed spacing (when packaging material is a web shape), and the packaging material is formed to the final shape by folding of a crease line. The final shape includes a brick shape, a multiple column, a hexagon-head column, tetrahedron shape with four triangular faces, etc.

Furthermore, with the paper packaging container of a gable top shape, a paper packaging material is cut in the predetermined shape, and the blank sealed to

container lengthwise is obtained, and after sealing the bottom of a blanks within a filling machine, the product of cow's milk, juice, or other drinks is packed from the top opening, and the upper part is sealed and the container is obtained. The innermost layer of the packaging material corresponding to a transversal-seal portion or/, and a longitudinal-seal portion in the paper containers is heat sealed with the innermost layer of another side, or the outermost layer.

The low density polyethylene (LDPE) by the high-pressure method / printing ink layer / paper (fibrous) substrate layer / LDPE / aluminum foil (Al) / LDPE/LDPE, LDPE / printing ink layer / paper substrate layer / LDPE/LDPE, a printing ink layer / LDPE / paper substrate layer / LDPE/LDPE and LDPE / printing ink layer / paper substrate layer / LDPE/aluminum / polyester (PET) is known about the packaging laminate used for the conventional paper packaging container product. They are also actually used widely currently.

However, LDPE used above is high-pressure method low density polyethylene, the low molecule component contained in the high-pressure method low density polyethylene of an innermost layer bleeds to the food content in the paper container, and if it preserves at a long period of time, it has a risk that the taste of a content may change. Moreover, in the ethylene alpha olefin copolymer obtained using a Ziegler catalyst, the seal temperature is high and the processability is poor. When a lubricant is added in order to improve them, the lubricant will bleed into the food content and will reduce the taste.

The paper container with which linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE) is used for the innermost layer is proposed (JP 62-78059A, JP 60-99647A, etc.). LLDPE is very excellent in a shock intensity, a tear strength, a cold brittleness ability, a heat-sealing intensity, a hot tuck performance, etc. However, since heat-sealing start temperature is somewhat high as compared with LDPE, EVA, or an ionomer, LLDPE may be inferior in the converting properties.

On the other hand, the paper containers which has the innermost layer of the ethylene alpha olefin copolymer (the so-called metallocene PE, mLLDPE) polymerized by the metallocene catalyst are proposed (JP 7-148895A, JP 8-337237A, JP 9-29868A, JP 9-52299A, JP 9-76435A, JP 9-142455A, JP 9-86537A, JP 9-76375A, etc.). It is known that metallocene PE is good for a health performance and can be applied to a container since the metallocene PE has a low-temperature sealability, the film processability, and a narrow molecular weight distribution (WO

93/No. 08221, 44 magazine "plastic" No. 1 60 pages, 39 magazine "chemistry economy" No. 9 48 pages, 44 magazine "plastic" No. 10 83 pages). However, even though Metallocene PE has the low-temperature sealability, no metallocene PE can not necessarily make less bleeding out to the content in the paper container obtained by heat sealing. Moreover, the good performance is not shown in an extrusion laminated properties required for packaging material manufacture, and its converting properties.

If liquid food is fruit juice of citrus fruits etc., non-scalping such as a flavor and tasty, and an oxygen barrier are needed. In the liquid food, oxygen penetrates through the wall of the carton and, for the reason, those nutritional value is lost. In order to reduce permeation of the oxygen to carton and to make degradation of a nutrient like vitamin C into the minimum, usually an aluminum foil layer is added to laminated material.

In addition to above-mentioned packaging material, the strip tape covering the discontinuous section of the innermost layer between two edges of the packaging material in liquid tight can be provided in the paper packaging container formed from above-mentioned packaging material. For example, when forming web-like packaging material to a tube shape by the longitudinal seal of a longitudinal direction, packing the filled product in the packaging material, carrying out the transversal seal of the packaging material in the transversal direction and forming to a brick shape etc. finally, in order to protect the packaging material edge in a longitudinal-seal portion, the level difference section of an innermost layer is covered on a strip tape in liquid tight. Moreover, the hole usually punched at the container wall on top is formed in pouring opening of a packaging container, a spout, and pull tabs. The strip tape (a strip tape patch is included) is attached so that the punched hole may be covered.

As such a strip tape, conventionally, the strip tape of the single layer composition of the low density polyethylene (LDPE) by the high-pressure method, the strip tape which laminated LDPE to both sides on both sides of an intermediate layer's high-density polyethylene (HDPE), the strip tape which laminated LDPE to both sides on both sides of an intermediate layer's polyester (amorphous PET and PET are included), the strip tape with the LDPE laminated on both sides of an intermediate layer's polyethylene vinyl alcohol (EVOH) are used, or are proposed.

Moreover, the various trials in which the practical substitute which changes to aluminum foil is developed have been made. Moreover, it can be scrapped after use,

it being provided with the outstanding oxygen gas barrier, and perfume barrier properties. Using the vapor deposited layer of an inorganic oxide for the packaging material for paper containers was proposed (JP,5-28190,Y, JP,8-500068,A, JP,6-93120,A). By the packaging material which has such a gas (oxygen) barrier, the paper container which has a non-scalping or quality keeping ability can be offered. In filling / packing process of liquid food, the surface portion to be sealed is polluted with an oxide by the temperature of the fused extrusion heat in the extrusion lamination step. Moreover, the surface is polluted with remains liquid food. It becomes important in an actual manufacturing process to optimally seal the packaging material to which such a contaminant and an impurity exist in the surface. In the above-mentioned conventional liquid food paper container packaging material, it is difficult to obtain the optimal seal.

In the filling packaging method of a brick shape packaging container, the innermost layer of one edge of packaging material and the outermost layer of the edge of another side are longitudinally sealed for the packaging material of a continuation paper substrate layer with a crease line. The packaging material is formed in the longitudinal direction at a tube shape, and filled liquid food is packed in tube-like packaging material. The innermost layer of tube-like packaging material is sealed with each other under the surface of this liquid food, and the transversal seal of the packaging material is carried out in the transversal direction for every predetermined spacing. The packaging material is cut along with a transversal-seal portion, it forms in primary shape, the packaging material is formed by folding in alignment with the crease line in the final shape of a brick shape, and a packaging container is obtained. It is difficult to obtain a good seal by the filling packaging method, since the packaging material is sealed under the surface of liquid food, liquid food surely remains and the surface is polluted.

Furthermore, since filling liquid food has various quality and properties about temperature, the temperature conditions when filling with and packaging the food are changed broadly, therefore the temperature of the filling step is influenced and is changed in the range also with the large seal temperature in the process of filling and packaging. However, since the heat adhesive resin in the conventional packaging material does not necessarily have the seal properties of a large temperature range, the temperature of a filling content influences and a good seal is not obtained.

Moreover, in the multi-purpose conventional thermoplastic polymer for seals

mentioned above, there is a risk that this thermoplastic material layer may melt, a pinhole, foaming, a blister, etc. may happen in some layers, and seal strength may decrease remarkably, and a liquid content may leak from the poor portion, by for example, the elevated-temperature air under the sealing step. If the layer of a thermoplastic material is thickened in order to prevent them, the container cost rises inconveniently.

Disclosure of The Invention

This invention was made based on an above-mentioned background. The purpose of this invention is offering the packaging material for paper containers for filling packaging of the liquid food in which the packaging material has good performance in the extrusion-laminating properties and the converting properties required in the case of the packaging material manufacture, and the packaging material can be easily manufactured, the packaging material can be quickly heat sealed, the seal is made tougher, the good seal is obtained without the influence from the temperature of a filling content, and the packaging material has a non-scalping or a quality preservability.

Moreover, the purpose of this invention is offering the packaging material for paper containers by which a pinhole, foaming, a blister, etc. do not happen in some thermoplastic material layer under the sealing step, but seal strength's can be maintained, there is no leakage of a liquid content, and the paper container of low cost is manufactured.

The above-mentioned subject is solved by the packaging material for paper containers by this invention. That is, the packaging material for paper containers by this invention relates to a packaging material for paper containers including constitution layers of at least an outermost thermoplastic material layer, a paper substrate layer, a barrier layer, and a thermoplastic material innermost layer, in which each constitution layer is laminated in the above order. The thermoplastic material innermost layer contains at least the linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution, and is characterized by having the properties parameter of an average density of 0.900-0.915 (preferably 0.905-0.910), 88-103 degrees C (preferably 93-103 degrees C) of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 5-20, a swelling ratio (SR) of 1.4-1.6, and a 20-50 micrometers (preferably 20-30 micrometers) of a layer thickness.

In the desirable embodiment of this invention, the thermoplastic material outermost layer contains at least the linear low density polyethylene having a narrow molecular weight distribution, and has the properties parameter of the average density of 0.900-0.925, 88-103 degrees C (preferably 93-103 degrees C) of the peak melting point, the melt flow index of 5-20, the swelling ratio (SR) of 1.4-1.6, and 10-25 micrometers (preferably 10-20 micrometers) of the layer thickness.

In another desirable embodiment of this invention, an adhesives layer between the barrier layer and the thermoplastic material innermost layer contains at least the linear low density polyethylene having a narrow molecular weight distribution, and the adhesives layer has the properties parameter of the average density of 0.900-0.915 (preferably 0.905-0.910), 88-103 degrees C, [preferably 93-103 degrees C] of the peak melting point, the melt flow index of 5-20, the swelling ratio (SR) of 1.4-1.6, and 2-15-micrometer of the layer thickness.

In still more nearly another desirable embodiment of this invention, an adhesive thermoplastic material layer between the paper substrate layer and the barrier layer contains at least the linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution. The adhesive thermoplastic material layer has the properties parameter of the average density of 0.890-0.925, 88-103 degrees C (preferably 93-103 degrees C) of the peak melting point, the melt flow index of 10-20, the swelling ratio (SR) of 1.4-1.6, and 10-25 micrometers (typically 10-20 micrometers) of a layer thickness.

The paper packaging container of one embodiment by this invention is a paper packaging container formed from the packaging material which includes at least constitution layers of a thermoplastic material outermost layer, a paper substrate layer, a barrier layer, and a thermoplastic material innermost layer, and laminates each of the constitution layers in above order. The thermoplastic material innermost layer contains at least the linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution, and has the properties parameter of an average density of 0.900-0.915 (preferably 0.905-0.910), 88-103 degrees C (preferably 93-103 degrees C) of peak melting point, melt flow index of 5-20, swelling ratio (SR) of 1.4-1.6, and 20-50 micrometers (preferably 20-30 micrometers) of layer thickness.

At least, a sealing-surface layer of a strip tape which covers the discontinuous section of the thermoplastic material innermost layer between two edges of the packaging material in liquid tight contains at least the linear low density polyethylene

which has a narrow molecular weight distribution. Furthermore, a sealing-surface layer has the properties parameter of average density of 0.900-0.915, 88-103-degree C of peak melting point, melt flow index of 5-20, swelling ratio (SR) of 1.4-1.6 (preferably 1.45-1.55), and 20-100-micrometer of layer thickness.

Furthermore, another paper packaging container by this invention is a paper packaging container formed from the packaging material which contains constitution layers of at least an outside thermoplastic material layer, a paper substrate layer, and an inside thermoplastic material layer. The inside thermoplastic material layer contains at least a linear low density polyethylene, preferably a linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution preferably, and has the properties parameter of average density of 0.910-0.930 (preferably 0.922-0.927), peak melting point 115 degrees C or more by the differential scanning calorimetry, melt flow index of 5-15 (preferably 9-11), and swelling ratio of 1.3-1.8 (preferably 1.45-1.55).

Brief Description of Drawings

Fig. 1 is an outline sectional drawing showing the lamination of one example of the packaging material for paper containers of this invention.

Fig. 2 is a skeleton drawing of the filling machine which uses the packaging material for paper containers of this invention.

Fig. 3 is an outline sectional drawing showing the lamination of one example of the longitudinal-seal portion of the paper packaging container of this invention.

Fig. 4 is an outline sectional drawing showing the lamination of one example of the portion which forms a pull tab in the paper packaging container of this invention.

Fig. 5 is an outline sectional drawing showing the lamination of one example of the portion which forms a spout in the paper packaging container of this invention.

Fig. 6 is an outline sectional drawing showing the lamination of the example of the strip tape used for the paper packaging container of this invention.

Best Mode for Carrying out the Invention

The embodiment of this invention is shown below. The desirable packaging material for paper containers of an embodiment by this invention is the laminate which laminated each constitution layer in following order, including at least the constitution layers of the thermoplastic material outermost layer, the paper substrate

layer, the adhesive thermoplastic material layer, the barrier layer (for example, aluminum), and the thermoplastic material innermost layer.

The paper substrate, which can be used in this invention, is a substrate that it is made from kraft pulp and usually has the outstanding strength and low absorptivity. As the kind, there are the bleached paper (FBL), the paper which is not bleached (UBL), the duplex paper (DUPLEX) of FBL and UBL, clay coating paper, multi-layer duplex-paper (MB), etc., and any may be used in this invention.

The paper packaging container of one embodiment by this invention contains the strip tape which covers the discontinuous section of the innermost layer between two edges of packaging material in liquid tight. The packaging material is formed by the longitudinal seal in the longitudinal direction at a tube shape, and a filled product is filled in the packaging material, the packaging material is transversal sealed in the transversal direction, and, finally the packaging material is formed into the shape of a multiple column in the shape of a hexagon-head column etc. to a brick shape. As shown in a fig. 3, in order to specifically protect packaging material edge 20a in the longitudinal-seal portion of the packaging material 20 and 20 in the above-mentioned case, the level difference section of an innermost layer 26 is covered on the strip tape 27 in liquid tight.

Moreover, as shown in a fig. 4, in order to form the two-layer pull tabs 29a and 29b in a packaging container, punched holes 20b and 20b are formed in a container wall (usually upper surface). So as that the punched holes 20b and 20b may be covered, the strip tape patch 28 seals with an innermost layer 26.

Furthermore, as shown in a fig. 5, in order to form a spout 30 in a packaging container, punched holes 20b and 20b are formed in a container wall (usually upper surface). So as that the punched holes 20b and 20b may be covered, the strip tape patch 28 seals with an innermost layer 26.

The adhesive resin layer used in order to laminate the laminated packaging material of this invention contains at least the linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution, and is chosen from LLDPE which has a specific properties parameter, an ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer (EVA), and an ionomer. In the preferable embodiment of this invention, the LLDPE as an adhesives layer between the barrier layer and the thermoplastic material innermost layer contains at least the linear low density polyethylene having a narrow molecular weight distribution, and the LLDPE has the properties parameter of average density

of 0.900-0.915, 88-103-degree C of peak melting point, melt flow index of 5-20, and swelling ratio (SR) of 1.4-1.6, and 2-15-micrometer of layer thickness. By use of the LLDPE, even if it is extruded at an elevated temperature, the thermoplastic material innermost layer can be well-sealed with various barrier layers. By the LLDPE, an extrusion-laminating properties required in the case of packaging material manufacture is improved, good performance is shown in the converting properties by it, and manufacture of packaging material becomes easy.

Moreover, in still more nearly another preferable embodiment, LLDPE as an adhesive thermoplastic material layer between the paper substrate layer and the barrier layer contains at least the linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution, and has the properties parameter of average density of 0.890-0.925, 88-103-degree C of peak melting point, the melt flow index of 10-20, the swelling ratio (SR) of 1.4-1.6, and a 10-25-micrometer of layer thickness. By use of the LLDPE, since the extrusion-laminating properties and converting properties in the case of packaging material manufacture are excellent, manufacture of packaging material laminating can carry out very good.

Furthermore, the coat layer using the synthetic resin of ethylene vinyl acetate the copolymer (EVA) which has a metal and an adhesive property by the extruding lamination method, or the ionomer (IO) which cross linked the bridge by the metal ion in between the molecules of an ethylene vinyl-methacrylate copolymer can also be laminated as the adhesive layer. About 10-50micro is suitable for the thickness of the adhesives layer. Preferably, the adhesives layer is EVA or IO of 10micro - 18micro of layer thickness.

The packaging material for paper containers by this invention can contain at least the printing ink layer provided in the outside surface of the semi material which does not laminate the resin outermost layer yet, or the ink layer formed in the outside surface of a sealable outside resin layer. The ink has the water or oily ink for flexographic printings, the oily ink for gravure, hardenable ink for offset printing, etc. In the embodiment of the preferable packaging material for paper containers of this invention, the ink layer contains common components (for example, imine compounds etc.) in part with the component contained in the anchor agent layer in contact with the ink layer.

In the packaging material for paper containers of this invention, the thermoplastic material layer which the packaging material outside surface laminated is included.

Figure 1. Schematic representation of the experimental design. The subjects were divided into two groups: the control group (CG) and the experimental group (EG). The CG was divided into two subgroups: the control group (CG) and the control group (CG). The EG was divided into two subgroups: the experimental group (EG) and the experimental group (EG). The subjects were divided into two groups: the control group (CG) and the experimental group (EG). The CG was divided into two subgroups: the control group (CG) and the control group (CG). The EG was divided into two subgroups: the experimental group (EG) and the experimental group (EG).

Figure 1. Schematic representation of the experimental design. The subjects were divided into two groups: the control group (CG) and the experimental group (EG). The CG was divided into two subgroups: the control group (CG) and the control group (CG). The EG was divided into two subgroups: the experimental group (EG) and the experimental group (EG). The subjects were divided into two groups: the control group (CG) and the experimental group (EG). The CG was divided into two subgroups: the control group (CG) and the control group (CG). The EG was divided into two subgroups: the experimental group (EG) and the experimental group (EG).

[illegible][illegible]

In order to obtain sufficient shading performance, usually, the thickness of the thin film layer of the above-mentioned aluminum is preferably 10 nm - 200nm, and is more preferably 20-150nm in this invention.

In the above, all light transmissions fall as the thickness of the thin film layer of aluminum becomes thick. If the shading performance of the printing layer is not taken into consideration, the thickness of the thin film layer of aluminum is set to approximately 80nm and all light transmissions will become 0%.

In this invention, the thickness of the thin film layer of aluminum is adjusted according to necessary physical properties etc., corresponding to the existence of a final packaging form and a printing layer, and its location.

Reading the barrier layer which can be used in this invention, the film of the resin may contain barrier resin layers, such as EVOH and polyvinyl alcohol, and the resin film which has the vapor deposited film of an inorganic oxide, or the vapor deposited film of aluminum. The resin film includes the film of polyester resins, such as a polyethylene-terephthalate film and a polybutylene-terephthalate film, polyamide-resin films, such as nylon6 films, 66 nylon films, 610 nylon films, 612 nylon films, 11 nylon films, 12 nylon films, and a polyamide film by the condensation of a meta-xylene diamine, a polycarbonate resin film, polyolefin resin films, such as polyethylene and polypropylene, a poly vinyl alcoholic resin film, and ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer film, a polyvinyl chloride resin film, polyvinylidene chloride resin film, polystyrene resin film, poly (meta) acrylate resin film, poly acrylic nitrile resin film, polyacetal resin film, fluoro resin film, and other resin films.

In this invention, a silicon oxide (SiO_x), aluminum oxide, an indium oxide, tin oxide, a zirconium oxide, etc. can be used as an inorganic oxide which constitutes the thin film layer of an inorganic oxide, for example. Furthermore, in this invention, an inorganic oxide may be the mixture of silicon monoxide and silicon dioxide, or a mixture of silicon oxide and aluminum oxide.

In this invention, the methods of forming the thin film layer of inorganic oxide are the methods of forming the vapor deposited film by vacuum deposition methods, such as the ion beam method and an electron beam method, the sputtering method, the plasma-chemistry vacuum deposition (the PCVD method), etc. In the above, in order to obtain sufficient barrier performance, usually, the thickness of the thin film layer of an inorganic oxide is 10nm - 200nm, and is preferably 20-150nm in this invention. When the thickness of the thin film layer of an inorganic oxide exceeds

150nm, especially 200nm, there are risks of decline of the barrier the performance by the crack and bend of the thin film layer of an inorganic oxide, and also there are troubles of expensive material cost

Preferably, the barrier layer mentioned above is a 5-15-micrometer thin layer, and has the oxygen permeability of under 5 cc/m² 24hr atm (23 degree-C 85% RH).

In this invention, the thermoplastic material innermost layer contains at least the linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution, and has the properties parameter of average density of 0.905-0.910 (preferably 0.900-0.915), 88-103 degrees C, peak melting point (preferably 93-103 degrees C), melt flow index of 5-20, swelling ratio (SR) of 1.4-1.6, and 20-50 micrometers (preferably 20-30 micrometers) of layer thickness.

In the preferable embodiment of this invention, the linear low-density-polyethylene content polymer of a sealable innermost layer has swelling ratio (SR) of 1.4-1.6. The above-mentioned parameter is described more concretely. The "swelling and swell" indicate the phenomenon in which a cross-sectional area increases immediately after extrudes comes out of a die orifice, and the volume of the whole extrudes increases. The swelling ratio in this invention indicates the transversal dimension of the extrudes out of the die measured on the same conditions as the measurement conditions in the JIS test method for melt-flow-rate (MFR) measurement (namely, expansion coefficient of a diameter).

In another embodiment of this invention, an inside thermoplastic material layer contains at least linear low-density-polyethylene, preferably the linear low density polyethylene having a narrow molecular weight distribution. Furthermore, the inside thermoplastic material layer has the properties parameter of average density of 0.910-0.930 (preferably 0.922-0.927), the peak melting point of 115 degrees C or more by the differential scanning calorimetry, the melt flow index of 5-15 (preferably 9-11), and swelling ratio of 1.3-1.8 (preferably 1.45-1.55, more preferably about 1.5). Regarding the peak melting point by the differential scanning calorimetry, in case of one peak, exceeding 115 degree C of the peak melting point and 0.920 or more of average density are required, and if it is two or more peaks, 0.915 or more of average density and exceeds 115 degrees C of peak melting points for one of those peaks are required.

The thermoplastic material innermost layer contains the blend polymers which contain at least the linear low density polyethylene (mLLDPE) which has the narrow

As a typical thing of a single site catalyst, there are a metallocene catalyst and the so-called Kaminsky catalyst. The metallocene catalyst is a catalyst which comprises of a metallocene transition-metal compound and an organoaluminium compound. As a metallocene transition-metal compound, although a zirconium compound, a titanium compound, a silica compound, etc. are mentioned, this invention is not limited to them. Moreover, although, as for an organoaluminium compound, an alkyl aluminum and linear/cyclo- alminoxane are mentioned, this invention is not limited to them. Although the polymerization method has a solution-polymerization method, a vapor-phase-polymerization method, a slurry polymerization method, etc., this invention is not limited to these.

As for the alpha olefin of the comonomer in copolymerization with ethylene, butene -1, hexene -1, 4-methyl pentene 1, and an octene 1 are mentioned. The alpha olefins may be used sole and may be used as the mixture.

The preferable mixing ratio of ethylene and alpha olefin is 1 - 20 wt. %. Desirably, the density of the polymerized ethylene alpha olefin copolymer is $0.900 - 0.915 \text{ g/cm}^3$, and is preferably $0.905 - 0.910 \text{ g/cm}^3$. It is because the roll separation performance in the time of film forming and the slipping performance of film become bad if smaller than 0.900 g/cm^3 . Moreover, it is because the plasticity and low-temperature sealability of film are inferior and seal performance falls by the density higher than 0.915 g/cm^3 . The molecular weight is 1×10^3 to 1×10^6 , and melt flow rate (MFR) is 3.0-30g/10min (preferably 10-20 g/10 min). The peak melting point is 88-103 degrees C (preferably 93-103 degrees C).

In addition, various kinds of antioxidants, a ultraviolet absorber, an antistatic agent, lubricant, an anti blocking agent, a flameproofing agent, inorganic and an inorganic filler, a dye, a pigment, etc. may be suitably added by ethylene alpha-olefin copolymer. The low density polyethylene is obtained using the conventional multi-site catalyst which is a Ziegler catalyst, and is not limited to especially the kind or the polymerized method of a catalyst in this invention.

The packaging material for paper containers of the preferable embodiment of this invention contains at least the linear low density polyethylene which has a molecular weight distribution with a narrow innermost layer and, has the properties parameter of average density of $0.900 - 0.915$ (preferably $0.905 - 0.910$), 88-103 degrees C (preferably 93-103 degrees C) of peak melting point, melt flow index of 5-20, swelling ratio (SR) of 1.4-1.6, and a 20-50 micrometers (preferably 20-30 micrometers) of

layer thickness.

As mentioned above, there is an ethylene alpha-olefin copolymer which is polymerized using a metallocene catalyst as the thermoplastic material innermost layer. The mixture which contains, in this invention, the ethylene alpha-olefin copolymer which is polymerized using the metallocene catalyst, and the low density polyethylene which is polymerized using the multi-site catalyst, in a preferable embodiment, can be used. Any layers other than the innermost layer of a paper container are not limited.

The blending ratio of components required in order that the ethylene alpha olefin copolymer polymerized and obtained with the metallocene catalyst may maintain seal performance, such as salability, and shock resistance is 50 wt. % or more (preferably 55 - 75 wt. %, more preferably 55 - 65 wt. %). Seal performance or shock resistance good at less than 50 wt. % are not obtained, and workability and laminated performance decline at 65 wt. %.

A blending ratio required to heighten fused tension, such as the film moldability of the low density polyethylene from multi-site catalytic polymerization, is 50 or less wt. % (preferably 45 - 25 wt. %, more preferably 45 - 35 wt. %).

If the above-mentioned range is exceeded, since good seal performance and good shock resistance will not be obtained, it is not desirable.

Optional methods can be used for the methods of adjusting the above-mentioned resin, for example, they include the method of kneading by the biaxial kneading extruder, the roll mill, the Banbury mixer, etc., after blending each component and mixing by the blender, the mixer, etc., the dry-blend method in which mixed with pellets.

In the preferable embodiment, it is characterized by including ethylene alpha-olefin copolymer from metallocene catalytic polymerization, and the low density polyethylene from multi-site catalytic polymerization. The ethylene-alpha olefin copolymer which is polymerized with the metallocene catalyst shows a characteristic narrow molecular weight distribution ($M_w/M_n \leq 3$), i.e., a narrow composition distribution, and is uniform polymer in molecular structure. About the physical properties, the characteristic which is excellent in a tensile strength, an impact strength-proof, a tear strength, and a low-temperature sealability is kept, and a molecular tangle becomes large with the properties of the high fused tension which is one of the characteristics of the low density polyethylene from multi-site catalytic

polymerization. Therefore, film moldability and an impurity sealability can be improved.

Moreover, since extrusion film-forming performance is good, concentration of additives, such as lubricant, is made low. By the low concentration, the paper container which has the reduction of hindrance against the seal performance, maximization of the characteristic of seal performance, reduction of influence to the taste of the content food by the additive, and the outstanding content protection performance can be obtained.

In the liquid food filling field which carries out this invention, web-like paper packaging material is formed in the longitudinal direction at a tube shape, filled products, such as fruit juice, tea, and liquid dairy products, are packed in tube-like packaging material, tube-like packaging material is transversal sealed for every predetermined spacing in the transversal direction, packaging material is cut along with a transversal-seal portion, and a brick shape paper packaging container is obtained. Moreover, paper packaging material is cut in a predetermined configuration, the blanks which is sealed to container lengthwise is obtained, after sealing the bottom of the blanks, the filling liquid product is packed from top opening, the upper part is sealed, and the paper packaging container of a gable top shape is obtained.

The example of the paper container in this invention includes the container made of a converted paper (containers, such as a dress type, a two-piece type, and a three-piece type), a composite can, an insert molding container, a double container, etc. In the above case, the packaging material is punched as the expansion plan of a paper container, and after carrying out creasing-line processing, the packaging material is formed by the paper container of various forms by folding and sealing along with a creasing line. As the seal method, there are heat sealing, a flame seal, a hot-air seal, an ultrasonic seal, a high-frequency-induction-heating seal, etc. The laminates are supplied to a roll shape, a sleeve shape, or a cup shape, after being filled with a content, laminates are sealed using the various above-mentioned seal methods, and a paper container is formed in the filling machine.

The manufacturing method of the packaging material for paper containers by this invention is described below.

The lamination method of usual packaging material includes a wet lamination-process, dry lamination-process, and non-solvent type dry lamination process, an extrusion lamination process, the T die coextrusion forming method, a

coextrusion lamination process, a film blowing, others, etc. In this invention, if required at the above-mentioned lamination, pretreatment of, for example, a corona treatment, ozonization, etc. can be carried out to the film. For example, anchor-coat agents, such as isocyanate (urethane), polyethylene imine, poly butadiene, and organic titanium, lamination adhesives, such as polyurethane, poly acrylic, polyester, epoxy, polyvinyl acetate, and cellulose, well-known anchor-coat agents, etc. can be used.

As mentioned above, in this invention, although the various lamination methods are possible, in case packaging material is manufactured using an extruding lamination process, more merits by this invention can be obtained in the laminated packaging material by this invention.

In the preferable embodiment by this invention, since the resin to be extruded and laminated has the properties parameter adjusted the optimal in the average density, the peak melting point, the melt flow index, the swelling ratio, and the layer thickness, and, for the reason, the extrusion-laminating properties and the good converting properties in packaging material manufacture are shown.

In the manufacturing method of packaging material, more than the thermoplastic material outermost layer, the adhesives layer, the adhesive thermoplastic material layer, and the thermoplastic material innermost layer concerning this invention, an extrusion resin material, which constitutes the adhesive extruded layer, can be used. The material includes polyethylene, ethylene alpha-olefin copolymer, polypropylene, polybutene, poly isobutene, polyisobutylene, polybutadiene, polyisoprene, ethylene methacrylic-acid copolymer, copolymer of ethylene, such as ethylene acrylic acid copolymer, and unsaturated carboxylic acid, acid modified polyolefine resin, an ethylene ethyl acrylate copolymer, ionomer resin, ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer, etc.

Moreover, specifically, the adhesives of the adhesives layer in the case of using the dry-laminate method include urethane adhesives used in dry laminate etc., polyester urethane adhesives, polyether urethane adhesives, acrylic adhesives, polyester adhesives, polyamide adhesives, polyvinyl acetate adhesives, epoxy adhesives, rubber adhesives, etc.

An example of the packaging material by this invention is shown in Fig. 1. The packaging material of the example comprises of constitution layers of the thermoplastic material outermost layer 21, the paper substrate layer 22, the adhesive

thermoplastic material layer 23, the barrier layer 24, the adhesives layer 25, and the thermoplastic material innermost layer 26.

The packaging material is packaging material with crease lines. The packaging material is formed by the tube shape by the longitudinal seal of a longitudinal direction, and a liquid food product is packed in the tube shape formed packaging material, the transversal seal of the tube-like packaging material is carried out in the transversal direction, the packaging material is formed by the primary shape of a pillow, is separately cut by fixed spacing, is fold along with crease lines, and is formed to the final brick shape.

The outline of an example of the filling machine, which is used for the laminated packaging material according this invention, is shown in Fig. 2. In the filling machine shown in this example, the roll shape packaging material web 1 having a thermoplastic material innermost layer is wound-out, and is conveyed with rollers into inside of the filling machine. By the strip tape applicator 3, the strip tape 2 is sealed to the end of a packaging material web. The packaging material web passes through the inside of a sterilization agent bath 4, it is sterilized, and the air knife 5 removes a sterilization agent. The packaging material is formed to a tube shape with the forming roller 6. Liquid food is packed from the filling pipe 7 in the tube, and packaging material is sealed in the longitudinal direction by the longitudinal-seal element 8. The packaging material is fastened by a seal jaw 10 and counter jaw 11 in a heat-sealing equipment, sending this tube below by the length equivalent to one packaging container. Simultaneously, the packaging material is heat sealed in the transversal direction, and is continuously formed in the letter packaging container 12 of a pillow. Succeeding, the cutting schedule portion of the seal zone of the connecting pillow type packaging container is cut, and the packaging material is separated with a knife etc. in each packaging filling container 13 on the down stream. The flap of the upper and lower sides of the separated container 14 is folded, and the container is formed in the packaging filling container 11 of the final form with the final folder 14.

In another example which manufactures the paper container of this invention, the blank plates for paper containers with the creasing line of the predetermined shape of the packaging material by this invention are punched, subsequently, the edges of a blank plate are welded and containers are manufactured. The container is put into a filling machine, the bottom portion is folded along with a predetermined creasing line, and a heat-sealing bottom is formed by hot-air processing. A food content is packed

from top opening, the top portion can be folded along with a predetermined creasing lines, the top part can be heat sealed by hot-air processing, the gable top type top part can be formed, and a packaging product container can be manufactured. The example given above is illustration of the container for packaging concerning this invention, and this invention is not limited by them.

Although the embodiment which protects a packaging material edge on a monolayer strip tape is shown in Fig. 3, a strip tape can be made into a laminate in this invention. The figure of partial breakdown of the example is shown in Fig. 6 (A) and (B). The strip tape comprises of a laminate of the central layer 32 of a high density polyethylene (HDPE), and the both-sides layer 31 and 32 of the sealing-surface layer from this invention, in the embodiment of (A). Moreover, the strip tape comprises of a laminate of the polyester (PET) central layer 32, and the two-layer both-sides layers 31a, b, 33a, b of the sealing-surface layer by this invention, in the embodiment of (B).

Although the container for packaging concerning this invention can apply liquid products, such as cow's milk, a lactic-acid-bacteria drink, liquid soup, a fruit-juice drink, barley tea, green tea, oolong tea, liquor, a seasoning, medical supplies, cosmetics, a coating material, adhesives, ink, a developer, and an etching reagent, to packaging, it is preferably the container for liquid food.

Example

The following examples describe this invention concretely.

<Example 1-1>

The linear low density polyethylene (mLLDPE) of the narrow molecular weight distribution which is polymerized with the metallocene catalyst and the low density polyethylene by the high pressure process were blended. Fusion extruding of the layer of the blended adhesives of average density of 0.910, 97-degree C of peak melting point, melt flow index of 15, swelling ratio of 1.5, and 13-micrometer of layer thickness was carried out to the whole surface of aluminum foil with thickness of 9 micrometers. The linear low density polyethylene (mLLDPE) having the narrow molecular weight distribution which was polymerized with the metallocene catalyst, and the low density polyethylene by the high pressure process were further blended. The thermoplastic material innermost layer obtained with the blend of average density of 0.907, 96-degree C peak of melting point, melt flow index of 14, swelling

ratio of 1.5, and 25-micrometer of layer thickness was laminated, and the laminated film which comprises of aluminum foil / blended adhesives layer / thermoplastic material blended innermost layer was prepared.

Simultaneously, low density polyethylene (density =0.920 g/cm³, MI=5.1) by the high pressure process was extrusion coated by 330 degrees C of extrusion temperatures on the paper substrate (weight =320 g/m²) by 20 micrometers in thickness, and the thermoplastic material outermost layer was laminated. Subsequently, linear low density polyethylene (mLLDPE) of the narrow molecular weight distribution which was polymerized with the metallocene catalyst, and the low density polyethylene by the high pressure process were blended. Between the paper side of the low density polyethylene / paper substrate, and the aluminum foil side of the aluminum foil laminate, fusion extruding of the adhesive thermoplastic material layer of the blend of average density of 0.920, 99-degree C peak melting point, melt flow index of 17, swelling ratio of 1.5, and 12-micrometer layer thickness was carried out, the thermoplastic material layer was laminated, and the laminated web packaging material having laminated structure of being shown in Fig. 1 was obtained.

The liquid food-packaging container of brick shape was obtained by the filling machine shown in Fig. 2, using the packaging material. About the obtained packaging container, the seal temperature range of the longitudinal seal in the filling machine, the temperature range of a transversal seal, and seal strength were evaluated.

<Example 1-2>

Packaging material and the brick type paper container were produced like the example 1-1 except having used the thermoplastic material which blended the linear low density polyethylene (mLLDPE) of the narrow molecular weight distribution which was polymerized with the metallocene catalyst, and the low density polyethylene by the high pressure process instead of the low density polyethylene by the high pressure process of the thermoplastic material outermost layer in an example 1-1. The blended thermoplastic material had average density of 0.915, 95-degree C of peak melting point, melt flow index of 17, swelling ratio of 1.5, and 18-micrometer of layer thickness. Furthermore, the same evaluation as the above-mentioned example was performed about the obtained paper container and packaging filling. The pattern encaustic color printed by paper-layer external surface penetrated the transparent thermoplastic material outermost layer, and was vividly viewed from the outside with

gloss.

<Example 1-3>

The packaging material and the brick type paper container were produced like the example 1-1 except having used for a 8-micrometer polyester film the barrier film which vapor deposited the silicone oxide (SiOxCy) by the plasma enhanced chemical vapor deposition instead of the aluminum foil in an example 1-1. Furthermore, it is similarly estimated as an example about the obtained paper container and packaging filling.

<Comparative example 1-1>

The packaging material and the brick type paper container were produced like the example 1-1 except having used the low density polyethylene (density =0.920 g/cm³, MI=5.1) by the high pressure process for the thermoplastic material innermost layer and adhesives layer in an example 1-1. Furthermore, the same evaluation as the above-mentioned example was performed about the obtained paper container and packaging filling.

<Comparative example 1-2>

The packaging material and the brick type paper container were produced like the example 1-1 except having used a low density polyethylene (density =0.920 g/cm³, MI=5.1) by the high pressure process for the adhesives layer in an example 1, and having used a film which was made from the low density polyethylene by the film blowing and the adhesive resin for the thermoplastic material innermost layer in an example 1. Furthermore, the same evaluation as the above-mentioned example was performed about the obtained paper container and packaging filling.

<Comparative example 1-3>

The packaging material and the brick type paper container were produced like the example 1 except having used the thermoplastic material which blended the linear low density polyethylene (mLLDPE) of the narrow molecular weight distribution which polymerized with the metallocene catalyst, and the low density polyethylene by the high pressure process instead of the thermoplastic material of the innermost layer in an example 1-1. The blended thermoplastic material had average density of 0.915, 95-degree C of peak melting point, melt flow index of 17, swelling ratio of 1.3, and the 18-micrometer of layer thickness. Furthermore, the same evaluation as the above-mentioned example was performed about the obtained paper container and packaging filling.

Evaluation about the seal temperature range of the above-mentioned longitudinal seal, the temperature range of a transversal seal, and seal strength was performed for an example 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, and a comparative example 1-1, 1-2 and 1-3. Consequently, it was proved that the examples are superior to comparative examples.

For example, comparison of the example 1-2 and the comparative example 1-2 proved that the seal temperature range of the longitudinal seal expanded in 80% or more to low temperature side, and good sealability was shown, and the temperature range of a transversal seal expanded 20% or more, and the seal at the time of packaging filling became more easily and simple in the example 1-2. Furthermore, when the example 1-2 was compared with the comparative example 1-2 about the seal strength of a transversal seal, the strength will have been improved 30 to 40%. Moreover, the impurity sealability (performance of whether to be able to carry out a seal good, even if impurities, such as an oxide and remains food, exist between the thermoplastic material innermost layers of the zone which should seal) of a thermoplastic material innermost layer was evaluated. Consequently, the container of the example was excellent in the impurity sealability.

<Example 2-1>

By the same lamination as an example 1-1, the laminated web packaging material of laminated constitution of being shown in Fig. 1 was obtained.

By the filling machine shown in Fig. 2, the liquid food filling packaging container of brick shape was obtained using the packaging material and the strip tape 2 of laminated constitution of being shown in Fig. 6. The sealing-surface layer of the strip tape was the material which blended the linear low density polyethylene (mLLDPE) of the narrow molecular weight distribution which was polymerized with the metallocene catalyst, and the low density polyethylene by the high pressure process. The sealing-surface layer was extruded to the PET film, and the laminated strip tape of 10mm width which comprises of a sealing-surface layer / a PET layer / a sealing-surface layer was obtained. The blended material had average density of 0.915, 96-degree C of peak melting point, melt flow index of 15, and swelling ratio of 1.49. Evaluation of the seal temperature range of the longitudinal seal in the obtained packaging container and a filling machine and seal strength was performed.

<Example 2-2>

The packaging material and the brick type paper packaging container were

produced like the example 2-1 except having used the thermoplastic material which blended the linear low density polyethylene (mLLDPE) of the narrow molecular weight distribution which was polymerized with the metallocene catalyst, and the low density polyethylene by the high pressure process instead of the low density polyethylene by the high pressure process of the thermoplastic material outermost layer in an example 2-1. The blended thermoplastic material had average density of 0.915, 95-degree C peak melting point, melt flow index of 17, swelling ratio of 1.5, and 18-micrometer layer thickness. Furthermore, evaluation about the obtained paper packaging container and packaging filling was performed. The seal temperature range expanded no less than 80% about the longitudinal seal.

<Example 2-3>

The packaging material and the brick type paper packaging container were produced like the example 2-1 except having used for the 8-micrometer polyester film the barrier film which vapor deposited the carbon content silicone oxide (SiOxCy) by the plasma enhanced chemical vapor deposition instead of the aluminum foil in an example 2-1. Furthermore, the same evaluation as the above-mentioned example was performed about the obtained paper packaging container and packaging filling.

<Comparative example 2-1>

The packaging material and the brick type paper packaging container were produced like the example 2-1 except having used the low density polyethylene (density = 0.920 g/cm^3 , $\text{MI}=5.1$) by the high pressure process for the thermoplastic material innermost layer and adhesives layer in an example 2-1. Furthermore, the same evaluation as the above-mentioned example was performed about the obtained paper packaging container and packaging filling.

<Comparative example 2-2>

The packaging material and the brick type paper packaging container were produced like the example 1 except having used for the adhesives layer in an example 2-1 the film which was laminated with the low density polyethylene by the film blowing, and the adhesive resin as a thermoplastic material innermost layer using the low density polyethylene (density = 0.920 g/cm^3 , $\text{MI}=5.1$) by the high pressure process. Furthermore, the same evaluation as the above-mentioned example was performed about the obtained paper packaging container and packaging filling.

<Comparative example 2-3>

The packaging material and the brick type paper packaging container were produced like the example 2-1 except having used the thermoplastic material which blended the linear low density polyethylene (mLLDPE) of the narrow molecular weight distribution from polymerization with the metallocene catalyst, and the low density polyethylene by the high pressure process instead of the thermoplastic material of the innermost layer in an example 2-1. The blended thermoplastic material had average density of 0.915, 95-degree C of peak melting point, melt flow index of 17, the swelling ratio of 1.3, and 18-micrometer of layer thickness. Furthermore, the same evaluation as the above-mentioned example was performed about the obtained paper packaging container and packaging filling.

<Comparative example 2-4>

Instead of the strip tape by this invention in the example 2-1, packaging material and the brick type paper packaging container were produced like the example 1 except having used the conventional strip of an intermediate layer's polyester (PET, and amorphous PET are included) and the double-sided layer of LDPE. Furthermore, the same evaluation as the above-mentioned example was performed about the obtained paper packaging container and packaging filling.

Evaluation of the seal temperature range of the above-mentioned longitudinal seal and seal strength was performed about the examples 2-1, 2-2, 2-3 and the comparative examples 2-1, and 2-2, 2-3 and 2-4. Consequently, it was shown that the examples are superior to comparative examples. For example, when the example 2-1 was compared with the comparative example 2-1, in the example 2-1, the seal temperature range of a longitudinal seal expanded in 100% or more to lower temperature side, good sealable ability was shown, and it was proved that the seal at the time of packaging filling became more easily and simple. Furthermore, when the example 2-2 was compared with the comparative example 2-2 about seal strength, it have improved 30 to 40%. When an example 2-1, and 2, 3 and a comparative example 2-4 are compared, even if the filling packaging speed using the filling machine by Fig. 2 speeds up 70%, the good seal in a longitudinal-seal portion was shown in the example. The workability of packaging filling improved.

<Example 3-1>

The low density polyethylene (density =0.920g/cm³, MI=5.1) by the high pressure process was extrusion coated by 330 degrees C of extrusion temperatures on the paper substrate (weight =320 g/m²) by 20 micrometers in thickness, and the outside

thermoplastic material layer was laminated. Then, mLLDPE with the properties parameter of average density of 0.925, 116-degree C of peak melting point by the differential scanning calorimetry, melt flow index of 10, and swelling ratio of 1.5 was laminated at the inside rear face of a paper substrate by the 35-micrometer layer thickness.

The packaging material was punched to the blank plate for paper packaging containers with creasing lines, subsequently, the edges of the blank plates were welded and the sleeve shape container was manufactured. The container was put into the liquid food filling machine, the bottom portion was folded along with the predetermined creasing line, heat fusion was carried out by hot-air processing, the bottom was formed, and, subsequently the content product was packed from top opening. The top portion was folded along with the predetermined creasing line, heat fusion was carried out by hot-air processing, and the gable top type packaging product was manufactured. The temperature range and seal strength of the top seal of the obtained packaging container were evaluated.

<Example 3-2>

The packaging material and the paper packaging container were produced like the example 1 except having used the blend polymer which blended the linear low density polyethylene (mLLDPE) of the narrow molecular weight distribution which polymerized with the metallocene catalyst, and the low density polyethylene by the high pressure process instead of mLLDPE of the inside thermoplastic material layer in an example 3-1. The blend polymer of a 35-micrometer layer thickness had the properties parameter of average density of 0.925, 118-degree C of peak melting point by the differential scanning calorimetry, melt flow index of 11, and swelling ratio of 1.5. Furthermore, the same evaluation as the above-mentioned example was performed about the obtained paper packaging container and packaging filling.

<Example 3-3>

The packaging material and the paper packaging container were produced like the example 1 except having used LLDPE of the 35-micrometer layer thickness which has the properties parameter of average density of 0.925, 118-degree C of peak melting point by the differential scanning calorimetry, melt flow index of 11, and swelling ratio of 1.5 instead of mLLDPE of the inside thermoplastic material layer in an example 3-1. Furthermore, the same evaluation as the above-mentioned example was performed about the obtained paper packaging container and packaging filling.

<Comparative example 3-1>

The packaging material and the paper packaging container were produced like the example 3-1 except having used the low density polyethylene (density =0.923, MFI=4, 113-degree C of peak melting point by the differential scanning calorimetry, 1.8 of swelling ratios) by the high pressure process instead of mLLDPE of the inside thermoplastic material layer in an example 3-1. Furthermore, the same evaluation as the above-mentioned example was performed about the obtained paper packaging container and packaging filling.

<Comparative example 3-2>

Instead of mLLDPE of the inside thermoplastic material layer in an example 3-1, packaging material and the paper packaging container were produced like the example 3-1 except having used the low density polyethylene (density =0.925, MFI=3, the 110-degree C of peak melting point by the differential scanning calorimetry, 1.7 of swelling ratio). Furthermore, the same evaluation as the above-mentioned example was performed about the obtained paper packaging container and packaging filling.

An above-mentioned top seal temperature range and its above-mentioned seal strength were evaluated for the examples 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, and the comparative examples 3-1 and 3-2. Consequently, it was proved that examples are superior to comparative examples.

For example, when the example 3-1 was compared with the comparative example 3-1, in the example 3-1, the temperature range of a seal expanded 20% or more, and the seal at the time of packaging filling became more easily and simple. In the example 3-1, the ratio of leakage of samples was 0% about the top seal strength. On the other hand, since pinhole, foaming, the blister, etc. occurred in the fused thermoplastic material layer, 5-10% of the samples of the comparative examples showed leakages.

Moreover, the impurity sealability (performance of whether to be able to carry out a seal good, even if impurities, such as an oxide and remains food, exist between the thermoplastic material innermost layers of the zone which should seal) of a thermoplastic material innermost layer was evaluated. Consequently, those containers were excellent in the impurity sealability.

As the above-mentioned examples proved, this invention shows the following effectiveness.

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The packaging material for paper containers of this invention has good performance in an extrusion-laminating properties required in the case of packaging material manufacture, and the converting properties by it, and manufacture of packaging material is easy for it. Packaging material can be heat sealed quickly, tougher seal strength is made possible, and a good seal is obtained, without receiving influence in the temperature of a content product. That is, impurity sealable ability improves and the seal performance is excellent. The container has a non-scalping or a quality preservability.

Moreover, a good seal is obtained also at low temperature also with high temperature, without receiving influence in the temperature of a content product, since a seal temperature range expands at the time of packaging filling. For example, since the seal temperature in a filling machine can be set as temperature lower than the usual temperature, even if the thin film layer of an inorganic oxide, the thin film layer of an aluminum, etc. are used for a barrier layer, a heat damage can be reduced, as a result barrier degradation can be prevented.

In this invention, at the time of a seal, a pinhole, foaming, a blister, etc. do not happen in the thermoplastic material layer for seals, but seal strength can be maintained, and there is no leakage of a liquid content. Therefore, filling packaging to a low cost paper packaging container is easy, and can heat seal quickly. Tougher seal strength is made possible, and a good seal is obtained, without receiving influence in the temperature of a content product, and the container has a non-scalping or a quality preservability.

Industrial Applicability

From the packaging material by this invention, the packaging container in which liquid food, such as cow's milk and a fruits drink, are put can be manufactured.

CLAIMS

1. A packaging material for paper containers comprising at least constitution layers of a thermoplastic material outermost layer, a paper substrate layer, a barrier layer, and a thermoplastic material innermost layer and consisting the constitution layers laminated in above order, characterized in that the thermoplastic material innermost layer contains at least a linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution and has the properties parameter of an average density of 0.900-0.915, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 5-20, a swelling ratio (SR) of 1.4-1.6, and 20-50-micrometer of a layer thickness.
2. A packaging material for paper containers according to Claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic material outermost layer contains at least a linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution, and has properties parameter of an average density of 0.900-0.925, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 5-20, a swelling ratio (SR) of 1.4-1.6, and 10-25 micrometer of a layer thickness.
3. A packaging material for paper containers according to Claim 1 wherein the adhesives layer between the barrier layer and the thermoplastic material innermost layer contains at least a linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution, and has properties parameters of an average density of 0.900-0.915, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 5-20, a swelling ratio (SR) of 1.4-1.6, and 2-15 micrometer of a layer thickness.
4. A packaging material for paper containers according to Claim 1 wherein the adhesive thermoplastic material layer between the paper substrate layer and the barrier layer contains at least a linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution, and has the properties parameter of an average density of 0.890-0.925, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 10-20, a swelling ratio (SR) of 1.4-1.6, and 10-25 micrometer of a layer thickness.
5. A paper packaging container formed from a packaging material comprising constitution layers of at least a thermoplastic material outermost layer, a paper substrate layer, a barrier layer, and a thermoplastic material innermost layer and consisting the constitution layers laminated in above order, characterized in that the thermoplastic material innermost layer contains at least a linear low density

polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution and has properties parameters of an average density of 0.900-0.915, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 5-20, a swelling ratio (SR) of 1.4-1.6, and 20-50 micrometer of a layer thickness,

a strip tape covers a discontinuous section of the thermoplastic material innermost layer between two edges of the packaging material in liquid tight, and

at least a sealing-surface layer of the strip tap contains a linear low density polyethylene which has a narrow molecular weight distribution and has properties parameters of an average density of 0.900-0.915, 88-103-degree C of a peak melting point, a melt flow index of 5-20, a swelling ratio (SR) of 1.4-1.6, and 20-100 micrometer of a layer thickness.

6. A paper packaging container formed from a packaging material comprising constitution layers of at least an outside thermoplastic material layer, a paper substrate layer, and an inside thermoplastic material layer, characterized in that the inside thermoplastic material layer contains at least a linear low density polyethylene, and has properties parameters of an average density of 0.910-0.930, a peak melting point of 115 degrees C or more by the differential scanning calorimetry, a melt flow index of 5-15, and a swelling ratio of 1.3-1.8.

Fig. 1

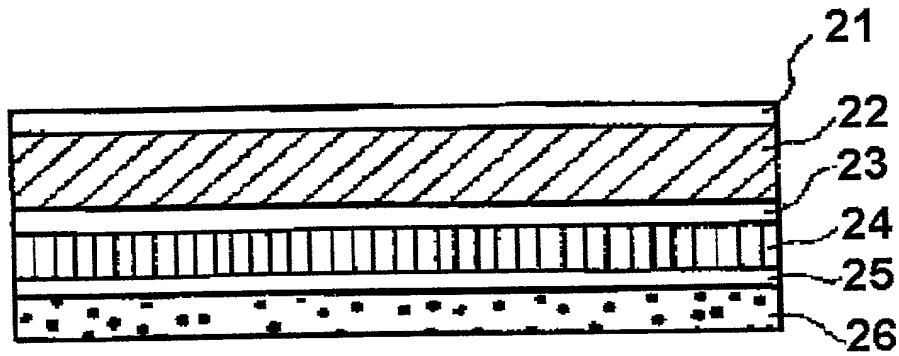


Fig. 2

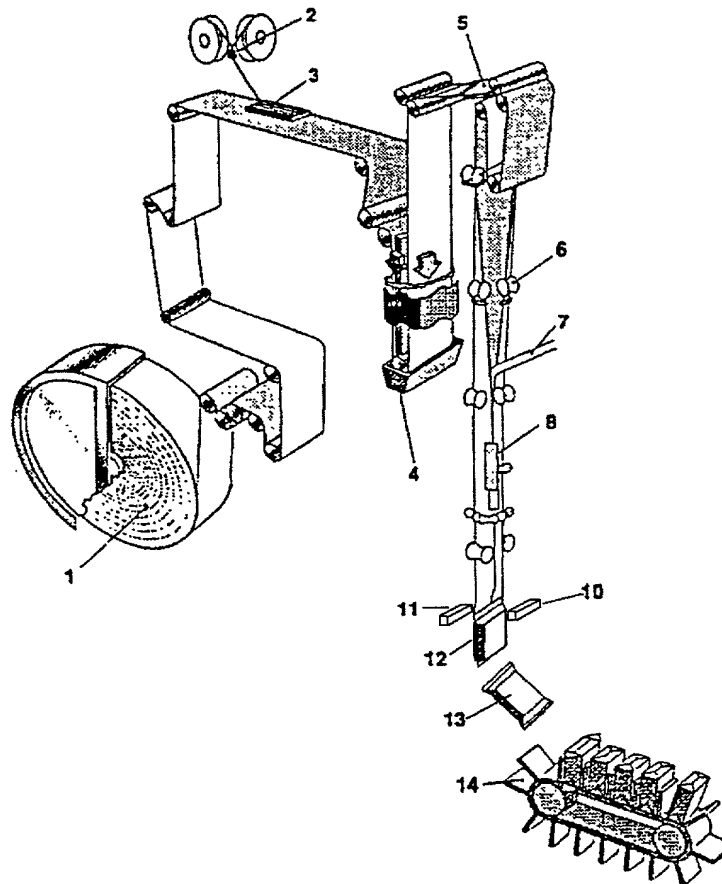


Fig. 3

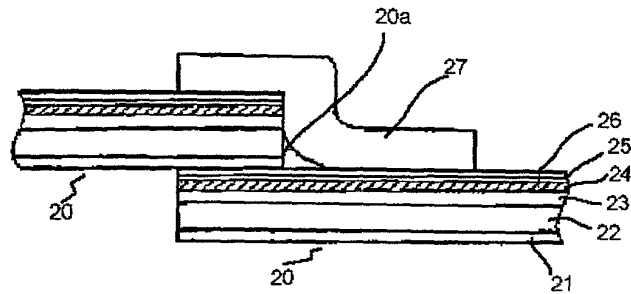


Fig. 4

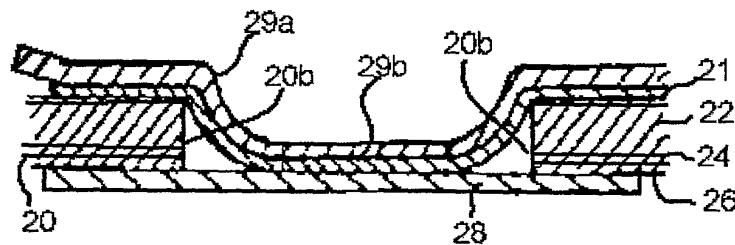


Fig. 5

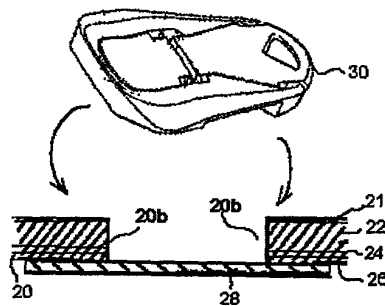
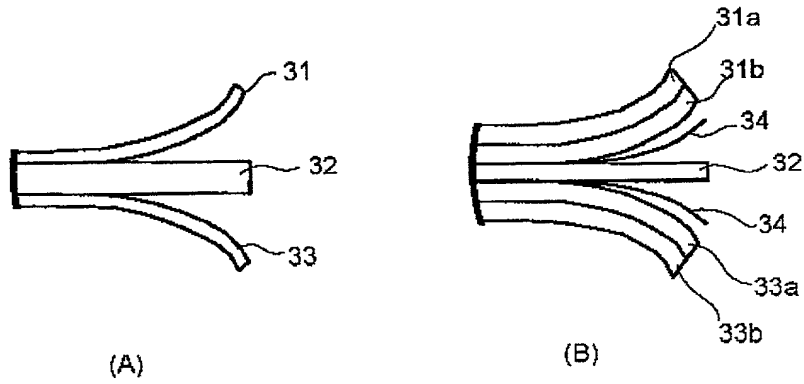


Fig. 6



**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION**

Attorney's Docket No.

027650-937

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I BELIEVE I AM THE ORIGINAL, FIRST AND SOLE INVENTOR (if only one name is listed below) OR AN ORIGINAL, FIRST AND JOINT INVENTOR (if more than one name is listed below) OF THE SUBJECT MATTER WHICH IS CLAIMED AND FOR WHICH A PATENT IS SOUGHT ON THE INVENTION ENTITLED:

LAMINATED PACKAGING MATERIAL FOR PAPER CONTAINER

the specification of which

(check one)

☐

is attached hereto;

☒

was filed on January 25, 2000 as

International Application No. PCT/JP00/00340

and was amended on _____;
(if applicable)

I HAVE REVIEWED AND UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED SPECIFICATION, INCLUDING THE CLAIMS, AS AMENDED BY ANY AMENDMENT REFERRED TO ABOVE;

I ACKNOWLEDGE THE DUTY TO DISCLOSE TO THE OFFICE ALL INFORMATION KNOWN TO ME TO BE MATERIAL TO PATENTABILITY AS DEFINED IN TITLE 37, CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, Sec. 1.56 (as amended effective March 16, 1992);

I do not know and do not believe the said invention was ever known or used in the United States of America before my or our invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my or our invention thereof or more than one year prior to said application; that said invention was not in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to said application; that said invention has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of said application in any country foreign to the United States of America on any application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to said application;

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code Sec. 119 and/or Sec. 365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate as indicated below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention having a filing date before that of the application(s) on which priority is claimed:

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Attorney's Docket No.

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COUNTRY/INTERNATIONAL	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED
Japan	11-17804	27 January 1999	YES <u>X</u> NO <u> </u>
Japan	11-19552	28 January 1999	YES <u>X</u> NO <u> </u>
Japan	11-21109	29 January 1999	YES <u> </u> NO <u> </u>

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027650-937

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